

Applic. No. 10/813,994
Art Unit: 2874

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A sealing feature for a multiple-piece housing for optoelectronic devices, said sealing feature including a corrugated channel extending along a length of said housing to provide a seal between said housing pieces, said channel having an intermittently varying cross-sectional area that varies along the longitudinal direction of said channel and said channel capable of receiving therein a gasket having a substantially constant cross-sectional area, and said channel including wide sections and narrow sections extending along the longitudinal direction of said channel, wherein each wide section and narrow section includes a top width portion and a depth portion having dimensions, and the dimensions of the width and depth portions for each section provide a cross-sectional area for that section, the cross-sectional area of each wide section being greater than the cross-sectional area of each narrow section.

Claim 2. (Original) The sealing feature as in claim 1, in which said channel includes a plurality of minimum cross-sectional area portions capable of tightly securing said gasket.

Claim 3. (Original) The sealing feature as in claim 2, wherein said channel is formed within a first sealing surface formed in a first piece of said multiple-piece housing and a second piece of said multiple-piece housing includes a second sealing surface and, when said gasket is disposed within said channel and said first piece and said second piece are joined to form said multiple-piece housing, said first sealing surface and said second sealing surface form a substantially conterminous boundary and said gasket includes maximum compression points substantially only at each of said plurality of minimum cross-sectional area portions.

Claim 4. (Original) The sealing feature as in claim 3, further comprising fastening means securing said first piece to said second piece.

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Claim 5. (Original) The sealing feature as in claim 2, wherein said channel is formed within a first sealing surface formed in a first piece of said multiple-piece housing and a second piece of said multiple-piece housing includes a second sealing surface including a tongue extending therefrom, and, when said gasket is disposed within said channel and said first piece and said second piece are joined to form said multiple-piece housing, said first sealing surface and said second sealing surface form a substantially conterminous boundary, said tongue is received within said channel and compresses said gasket, and said gasket includes maximum compression points only at each of said plurality of minimum cross-sectional area portions.

Claim 6. (Currently amended) The sealing feature as in claim 1, in which said cross-sectional area of the corrugated channel varies regularly along the longitudinal direction of the channel in regular intervals.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) A multiple piece housing for optoelectronic devices comprising a first piece including a first sealing surface and contacting a second sealing surface of a second piece, and a corrugated channel formed within said first sealing surface and extending along a length of said first sealing surface, said corrugated channel having a cross-sectional area that varies along the longitudinal direction of said channel and said corrugated channel retaining a gasket having a substantially constant cross-sectional area, said gasket contacting said second surface and ridged portions of said corrugated channel, wherein said corrugated channel includes wide sections and narrow sections extending along the longitudinal direction of said corrugated channel, each wide section and narrow section including a top width portion and a depth portion having dimensions, the dimensions of the width and depth portions for each section providing a cross-sectional area for that section, and the cross-sectional area of each wide section being greater than the cross-sectional area of each narrow section.